

Introduced by Senator McClintock

February 23, 2006

An act to add Section 168 to the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1494, as introduced, McClintock. Top priority transportation projects.

Existing law provides for the California Transportation Commission to program and allocate transportation funds to transportation projects pursuant to the state transportation improvement program process or as otherwise required by law. Transportation projects receiving state funds are generally subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and public agency contracting procedures.

This bill would authorize the commission to designate transportation projects of statewide significance as top priority projects. The bill would exempt these projects from the California Environmental Quality Act, and would authorize the Department of Transportation or other implementing agency to use design-build and design-sequencing procedures for the project, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 168 is added to the Streets and
- 2 Highways Code, to read:
- 3 168. (a) As used in this section, "top priority project" means
- 4 a transportation project of statewide significance.

1 (b) The California Transportation Commission, upon adoption
2 of a resolution containing supporting information, may designate
3 a transportation project that is allocated state funds as a top
4 priority project.

5 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a top priority
6 project shall be exempt from the California Environmental
7 Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of
8 the Public Resources Code), and the department or other agency
9 responsible for delivering the project may use design-build and
10 design-sequencing contracting procedures for the project.